

Hank Davis, W6DTV 7822 Washington Avenue Phone 823-7885 Sebastopol, CA 95472 (Noncommercial ham ads are printed for free)

STILL WANT: CW FILTER for Drake TR-7 (5645 kHz). Now I only need the narrow (300 Hz) model. Al NIAL 538-7115 or (days) 577-3981.

WANT: MATCH BOX antenna tuner, KW size. Max N6BAA 829-0238.

WANT: 440 MOBILE RIG. Art W6LGQ 762-2132.

MFJ-1270 w/manuals \$75. Bob N6RMW 542-5209.

YAESU 401B MANUAL needed to copy and return. Bill N6GHG 431-8636.

AMERITRON AL-8DA amp, 3-500Z, 800 W, good condition \$700. John W6TLK 833-1873.

Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc. PO Box 116 Santa Rosa, CA 95402

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

WANT: 1955/56 ARRL HANDBOOK. Rick K6ZWB 542-6907.

ICOM 71A rcvr, speech synth, remote control. Phone for price. Tracy WB6TMY 527-8124.

DO YOU HAVE HF GEAR TO SELL? Phone W6DTV.

TEN-TEC 30 MTR MOBILE ANT \$10. Hank W6DTV 823-7885.

#### Radio Shack

STORE NO. 3855

ZANE BATES MANAGER

WB6SRU

510 FARMERS LANE SANTA ROSA, CA. 95405

TELEPHONE 546-8423

BULK RATE U.S. POSTAGE PAID SANTA ROSA, CA PERMIT NO. 658

JOHN BRECKENRIDGE WB6FRZ 574 WILD OAK DR WINDSOR CA 95492

DATED MATERIAL: PLEASE DO NOT DELAY



# SHORT SKIP



Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc.

Club Station NOVEMBER 1990

W6LFJ

P.O. Box 116 Santa Rosa, CA 95402 Repeater Station WB6PVS

VOL 15 # 11

### SCENES FROM THE SCRA MARCONI "WIRELESS" OPERATION

(OOPS! Last month's photos were by Bob N6RMW. THESE are John W6TLK's contributions:)

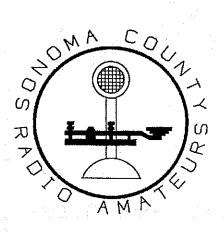








(d) 577-3981



### OFFICERS FOR 1990 -----

PRESIDENT:	John Wallack	W6TLK	833-1873
VICE PRESIDENT:	Jim Pelmulder	N6PTM	823-7947
	Alan Bloom	N1AL	538-7115
TREASURER:	Philip Gaul	KC6BSI	544-2572
MEMBER-AT-LARGE:	John Breckenridge	WB6FRZ	838-6398
ACTIVITIES CHAIR:	Chuck Sabin	N6DDK	795-2371
REPEATER CHAIRMAN:	Jim Rutherford	WB6PER	526-2972

EDITOR: CIRCULATION MGR: ADVERTISING MGR: SWAP SHOP:

SHORT SKIP STAFF: Alan Bloom N1AL (e) 538-7115 1578 Los Alamos Rd, Santa Rosa, CA 95409 Harvey Lawrence K6KZ

John Wallack W6TLK 833-1873 Hank Davis W6DTV 823-7885

ARRL LIAISON: Alan Bloom N1AL 538-7115 ASST. DIRECTOR: Chuck Sabin N6DDK 795-2371 BADGE CHAIRMAN: Jim Pelmulder N6PTM 823-7947 CLUB HISTORIAN: Connie Freitas N6FYV

#### **ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE:**

PUBLIC SERVICE: Bill Splaine N6GHG 431-8636 (days) 577-2913 EDUCATION: John Breckenridge WB6FRZ 838-6398 +WD6CKP WB7CNJ WB6TMY WA8LLY TVI/RFI: John Lynch W6CCY 823-1357 FLEA MARKET: Chod Harris WB2CHO 526-2198 AWARDS: Steve Lund WA8LLY 823-4544 VEC EXAMS: Steve Lund WA8LLY 823-4544

+N1AL WN6D WW6D WW6F WB6FRZ K6UXO REFRESHMENTS AT MEETINGS: Bob Olsten WD6DPE GREETER AT MEETINGS: Jane Vanderslice N6NTB RAFFLE AT MEETINGS: Chuck Sabin N6DDK MEMBERSHIP LOTTERY: Bob Scolnick K6GEV **QSL MANAGER:** Doug Bender WW6D

#### REPEATER CONTROL OP'S:

WD6CKP Hoppy 542-6750 N60NZ Garry 584-3425 WB6PER Jim 526-2972 W6TLK John 833-1873 WB6UAZ Kathi 544-7943 WN6D Jim 544-7943 N6PTM Jim 823-7947 PACKET COMMITTEE: Al NIAL. Jim WN6D

#### SHORT SKIP ADVERTISING RATES:

Business cards: \$10

\$11 First 1/4 Column \$3 Additional 1/4 Columns (\$32 Full Page, 1 side)

Pre-printed inserts: \$32/sheet

Guaranteed circulation: 200/month AD DEADLINE: 10th of previous month

#### ARE YOU NOT AN SCRA MEMBER?

IF SO, then this is a complimentary copy. Our club is involved with almost every area of Amateur Radio: Repeaters (13/73), Field Day, license classes (Novice through Extra). volunteer exams, RACES, DX programs, packet (145.03), hidden xmtr hunts -- you name it.

We invite you to attend our next monthly meeting (see below)or check into the Tuesday night SCARS net on the 146.13/73 repeater at 7:00 PM. You will hear the latest Westlink Amateur Radio News broadcast, announcements of SCRA activities, and a Swap Shop. If you would like to join SCRA, please refer to the dues listed below. Hope to have an "eyeball" QSO with you at the next meeting!

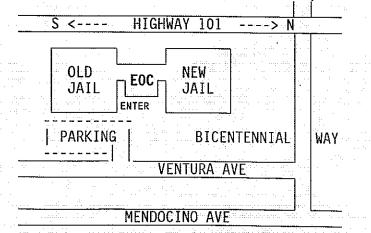
#### CLUB MEETINGS:

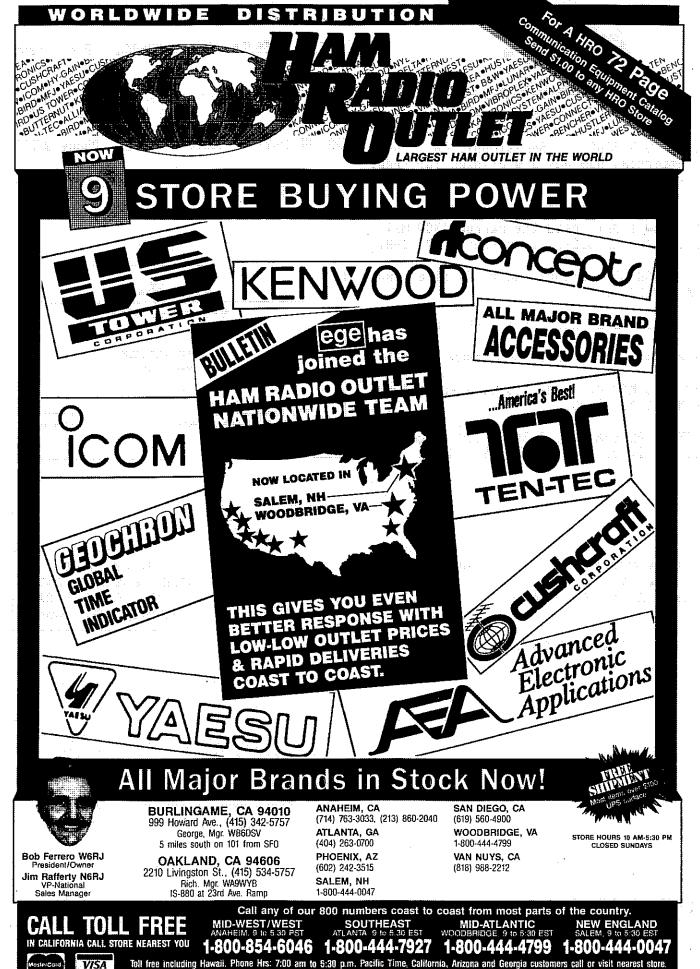
7:30 PM, 1st Wednesday each month at the EOC (Emergency Operations Center, see map below) Anyone interested in ham radio is welcome.

NEXT MEETING: November 7, 1990

PROGRAM: Talk by Dan Nicholas, Sonoma Co. Director of Emergency Services.

DUES: \$12 per year, plus a one-time \$4.00 initiation fee. Dues are pro-rated \$1/month for new members. With membership, comes an SCRA call/name badge. Family membership: \$18





Georgia and Virginia residents please add sales tax. Prices, specifications, descriptions subject to change without notice

#### **SCRA MINUTES**

October 3, 1990



The meeting was called to order by President John Wallack W6TLK at 7:32PM. Other officers present: Vice President Jim Pelmulder N6PTM, Secretary Al Bloom NIAL, Treasurer Phillip Gaul KC6BSI and Member-at-Large John Breckenridge WB6FRZ.

**VISITORS** were introduced by Jane N6NTB: WD6TNN, Linda Parker, WD6RLA, Ken Parker and Mike Lennon.

The MINUTES were approved as printed in Short Skip. m/s K6GEV/WD6CKP

The TREASURER'S REPORT by KC6BSI shows \$1026.07 in the General Fund and \$755.43 in the Repeater Fund. Approved m/s N6VUC/WD6CKP

The FLEA MARKET netted over \$800.

**REPEATER:** The Repco is coming back this weekend, according to Jim N6PTM.

PUBLIC SERVICE: Bill N6GHG thanks to all who have helped this season. We have just one final event, the Cystic Fibrosis bike tour Oct 20/21 through Napa and Sonoma Co.

A FOX HUNT is scheduled for Oct 13. Hoppy WD6CKP, as past winner, will be the fox.

**VEC EXAMS** are scheduled for Thursday Oct 11 by Steve WA8LLY. Walk-ins only.

RICH FREITAS KA6SSL passed away in the recent tragic vintage plane accident. Hank W6DTV noted that services are this Saturday at Knox Presbyterian Church.

The EDUCATION program by John WB6FRZ is going well. 13 students are in the Friday evening classes (4th week of 14) plus one individual student who will be ready for the exam in a week or two.

Jane N6NTB also thanked John for solving some antenna problems for her so she could get on the air.

ANTENNA INFORMATION: All NIAL has ordered the PRB-1 packet from ARRL and he handed out photocopies of info on antenna restrictions from the ARRL FCC Rulebook.

NOVEMBER 1990

Al also had registration forms for the Pacific Division convention.

The MARCONI event has generated 35-40 QSL card requests so far. Al will have some certificates printed up. N6VUC reported that we made over 200 QSO's.

LOSS OF HAM BANDS was a concern of Hank W6DTV who pointed out that commercial interests have been going after portions of our 50, 220, and 900 MHz bands lately. There was discussion of the upcoming WARC (World Administrative Radio Conference).

**ELECTIONS** are coming up next month. We need a Nominating Committee. NIAL, N6VUC and W6DTV volunteered.

The MEMBER OF THE YEAR Committee has been formed. Get your nominations to Jim N6PTM. This is best done in a short letter.

K6GEV pulled a winning ticket for the MEMBERSHIP LOTTERY for a change. The winner was Phil WA6SEU who got \$6.25.
Meeting adjourned 8:36 PM. m/s N1AL/WD6CKP Respectfully submitted, Sec Al Bloom N1AL

### TREASURER'S REPORT

FOR MONTH ENDING September 30, 1990

		and the state of t
ACCOUNT	REVENUE	EXPENSE
Refreshments at meetings .	. 6.80	15.18
Raffle at meetings		20.47
Dues and Initiations		
Fund-Raisers (Flea Market)		596.60
Badges		38.25
Misc(Donations		
Short Skip Newsletter		138.49
Amateur Radio Newsline		6.78
Membership Supplies		
Officers' Expenses	•	23.77
100570	315.55	839.54
ASSETS:		
General Fund Account	965.45	
Cash/checks_on_hand	60.62	
Total General Fund	1026.07	
Total Repeater Fund	755.43	de KC6BSI



### **ELECTIONS THIS MONTH!**

The Nominating Committee has come up with the following list:

President: Jim Pelmulder N6PTM
Vice President: Brian Torr N6IIY
Secretary: Al Bloom N1AL
Treasurer: Merlyn Pfeiff N6VUC
Members-at-Large: Phil Gaul KC6BSI
Bob Scolnick K6GEV

Mike Weihman N1DJE

Nominations will also be accepted from the floor. Come to the November meeting and vote, or don't complain all next year!

### A TALE OF TWO BUNNIES...

Tally ho! A half-dozen intrepid rabbit hunters gathered in the Garwood Market parking lot at 10 AM on Saturday Oct 13. Unbeknownst to them, rabbit #1 (Hoppy WD6CKP), assisted by assistant bunny Chuck N6DDK, were already in place, in wide-open view by the side of Mark West Station Road, just West of the Sonoma County Airport.

To make things a little more interesting, Hoppy was using a quad antenna which he would rotate from time-to-time.

Hoppy's multitudinous hints apparently fell on deaf ears, because the winner took a good hour to find him. First in was the team of Hank W6DTV, Sarah N6FAX and Jim N6PTM using a loop antenna. Merlyn N6VUC was next, using a Yagi, followed by Phil KC6BSI, also using a beam. Bob K6GEV brought up the rear with a doppler DF unit.

Then Hunters and hunted met together for the post-mortem over lunch. The weather was perfect, and everybody had a good time. Let's hope for a better turnout next time.



On October 3, 1980, the club held the THIRD breakfast for the year. About 30 to 35 persons arrived, "a small showing." N6DDK cooked, and W6CYM presided. There was a picnic, too.

Club station W6LFJ was awarded membership in the ARRL Brass Pounders League (BPL) for the month of July.

ARRL Director Bill Stevens W6ZM presented the July 1980 QST Cover Plaque to Al Bloom N1AL for his article on active filters.

RACES participation in the Simulated Emergency Test was a success, although there is "more work to be done."

A DX-pedition to Colusa County for the Calif QSO Party included Terry KA6DEI, David WD6AJR, Chuck WB4BXQ and Ron WB6NBR. Other than a shorted coax and a rig that refused to work on SSB, everybody had fun.

And finally, the Christmas Party was coming up. Committee members were WA6ACX, N6DBZ, WB6NBR, AG6C, KA6MVU, KD6GC, and W6CYM. Sounds like this was a busy month!

Table 3-1. Stranded Copper Wire Ampere Capacity

	Wire Size		Notes:	
AWG	Cross Section		1 Potions for AMC sind six 1 s	
22	Area or min	5.0	1. Ratings for AWG-sized wires derived from	
		i	MIL-W-5088B. Ratings for metric-sized	
20		\$.33	wires derived from IEC Publication 335-1.	
	0.75	.0		
18		15.4	2. Ampacity of aluminum wire is approximately	
	1	13.5	84% of that listed for copper wire.	
16		1.7.4	•	
	1.5	16	3 When two or more wires are bundled	
14		31.2	together, ampacity for each wire must be	
] ]	2.5	25	reduced to the following percentages:	
12	į	40	2 conductors 94%	
	4	32	3 conductors 89%	
10		55	4 conductors 83%	
! !	6	40	5 conductors 76%	
8		-5		
	10	23	4. Maximum temperatures:	
6		100	Ambient = 50° C	
4		:35	Conductor = 105° C	

#### THE AEA ISOLOOP ANTENNA

by ALAN BLOOM NIAL

There was a very interesting article in November World Radio by Dr. Donald K Reynolds, inventor of the Isoloop. No callsign was given, so I presume that Dr. Reynolds is not a ham. He is a retired professor of Electrical Engineering at the U. of Washington who for many years taught a graduate course in "Antenna Engineering".

The first part of the article was an excellent brief review of the theory of small dipole and loop antennas. I didn't catch him in a single error. Believe me, this is very unusual for articles on this subject in a ham magazine!

The bottom line is that a lossless small loop has a directivity only .39 dB less than a full-sized dipole. Of course small loops are not lossless. He claims the Isoloop has a theoretical gain of -3.5 db on 20 meters, -1.4 dB on 15, and -.8 dB on 10 (compared to a half-wave dipole). I didn't check his figures (hard to do without knowing the exact antenna geometry and materials), but these numbers sound reasonable.

"Kurt N. Sterba" is the nom de plume of the anonymous author of a monthly antenna column in World Radio. "Kurt" replied to Dr. Reynold's article with his usual mishmash of half-baked pseudo-technical drivel.

Kurt's only valid comment was that theory often does not hold true with very small (i.e. low-radiation-resistance) antennas, so AEA should measure antenna gain on a qualified antenna test range and publish the results. Dr. Reynolds did assert in his article that "measured performance of the antenna has been found to conform closely to the calculated", but he gave no details.

So am I going to rush out and buy an Isoloop for myself? Let's compare the advantages and disadvantages:

#### **ADVANTAGES:**

- Small Size. Easy to install.
- Covers all bands 14-30 MHz.
- Narrow bandwidth reduces transmitter harmonics & improves receiver selectivity.

#### **DISADVANTAGES:**

SONOMA COUNTY RADIO AMATEURS, INC.

- Price (\$299.95)
- Negative gain compared to a dipole.
- Narrow bandwidth (7.3 kHz on 20M) means you have to retune the antenna every time you change frequency.
- Limited to 150 watts.

Bottom line? I think \$300 is a lot of money to pay for an antenna with negative gain. True, it does cover 5 amateur bands, but you could buy an antenna tuner and a G5RV dipole or long wire that would do the same thing for half the money. And it could cover 80, 40, and 30 meters as well.

Also, I feel the AEA ad for the Isopole is a bit misleading: "Performance isn't compromised by its small size... about the gain of a dipole." (This depends on your definition of "about".) "Maximum radiation is at low angles which is ideal for DX operation." (The same could be said for a dipole at the same height.) "The narrow bandwidth suppresses harmonics... and attenuates out-of-band signals." (No mention is made of the frequent retuning this requires when changing frequency.)

In sum, if you have the money, have a severe space problem, and don't want to mess around with homebrew antennas, the Isoloop might be reasonable. It also might be handy as a portable antenna (assuming you have a source of power for the control box). But there is nothing magic about the antenna, and I think most people would be better off with a simple dipole.



The correct time to try to OSO ex-member Don KB6LO is Sundays between about 7 and 8 AM. Frequency is 21,430 kHz. Tnx WD6CKP

### REDX ON FIELD DAY

In the 1990 Field Day standings, the Redwood DX Assn (N6OJ) came in 9th (out of 280) in the 3A category with a score of 8290. SCRA's score of 3514 put us about about half-way down in the 4A listings.



SHORT SKIP

### **COMING EVENTS:**

SCARS NET: 146.73 MHz Tuesdays at 7 PM.

VE EXAMS HOTLINE NR: 408-984-8353

- 3-5 ARRL Sweepstakes, CW
- 5 RACES etc. Net, 7:30 PM
- 7 SCRA meeting 7/7:30 PM
- 16 CDF/VIP Meeting 7:30 PM
- 16 Deadline for December Short Skip
- 17-19 ARRL Sweepstakes, Phone
- 19 RACES etc. Net, 7:30 PM
- 24-25 CO Worldwide DX Contest, CW

#### DECEMBER:

- N30-2 ARRL 160 Meter Contest
  - 8-9 ARRL 10 Meter Contest
  - 14 Deadline for January Short Skip
  - 31 ARRL Straight Key Night

The Sebastopol TIMES & NEWS August 15, 1990



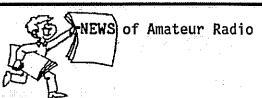
NGON≥

Garry Palmer, unit leader of Volunteers in Prevention, monitors one of the radios inside the emergency communication van.

It's the Cinderella of buses.

And although its proper moniker is the Amateur Radio "Emergency Communications Van," just think of it as "Big Red," and you'll get the picture.

Used to transport minimum security prisoners in its former life, Big Red was just "an old, scrungy, government surplus bus before



IARN MANAGER KIMAN HAS BEEN CITED AGAIN by FCC. This time it's for willful interference and broadcasting. He announced on his net that he will sue FCC. Tnx Westlink.

THE ARRL AMATEUR AUXILIARY helped FCC gather evidence in some of the BARF member citations issued recently. Tnx Westlink.

CANADIAN SUB-BANDS DISAPPEAR. As of Oct 1, VE's may now use any mode on any Amateur frequency. Tnx Westlink.

WARC IS COMING! The World Administrative Radio Conference opens in Spain Feb 3, 1992. The FCC's Notice of Inquiry on the matter touches on the following issues: Moving 40 meters down 100 kHz (6.9 to 7.2 MHz) and eliminating foreign broadcasting in the band, loss of 420-421 MHz (and possibly the high end of 2 meters) to the low-earth-orbit mobile satellite service, and loss of all or a portion of the 2390-2450 MHz band to land mobile, digital audio broadcasting, or mobile satellite uplinks. Tnx ARRL Letter.

COMMENT DEADLINE ON DELETING THE CW EXAM for the handicapped (RPRM 90-356) has passed, and FCC refused to grant an extension. Tnx ARRL Letter.

the Volunteers in Prevention got ahold of it," said Iim Pelmulder, 55, of Sebastopol, who did all the direct circuit wiring. Volunteers in Prevention, or VIP, is a group associated with the California Department of Forestry, and the VIPs in the CDF's Sonoma Ranger Unit out of Santa Rosa are mostly amateur radio opera-

In an emergency situation — such as fire, flood or earthquake the CDF needs its own radio circuits to dispatch units as quickly as possible. The new Emergency Communications Van enables five VIPs and

two CDF personnel to travel to the emergency site. Once there, they use their separate radio channels to communicate auxiliary needs on a 24-hour-a-day basis for as many days as necessary. "Without this volunteer help, the state's circuits would get overloaded just getting requisitions through," said Pelmulder.

"Fighting fires will be much more efficient (with the van), be-Cause the forestry department's channels are so limited," added Jud Spruce, 40, also of Sebastopol. Spruce contributed to Big Red's overshould by pointing its interior, he also painted the Spruce. haul by painting its interior; he also painted the Sonoma Ranger Unit's communications center on West College Ave. in Santa Rosa.

Hank Davis, who retired in 1972 from Analy High, where he taught shop for 32 years, was instrumental in constructing he communications center. He and his wife, Sarah, were also responsible for putting up the situation boards in the van above each operator's Station, where information is posted during an emergency.



### DX **NEWS**



BANABA, T33. A major expedition is due Nov 7 to 21 by an all-star team including JG2BRI, OHIRY, OH2BH, SM7PKK, and TF3CW. Signing T33T on CW and T33R on SSB with five complete stations, they will be active on 160 through 10 meters. QSL via OH3GZ.

BENIN, TY. Look for TY1DX October 25 to Nov 3, possibly signing TY2A in the COWW SSB contest. They will operate mostly SSB, with some CW on request. QSL via IK6FHG. TY1PS is often on RTTY around 21088 kHz at 2000 UTC.

BRUNEI, V85. Bob N200 returns to V85. November 12 to 16, possibly as V8500. He will work mostly CW on 80 through 10 meters.

CHRISTMAS ISLAND, VK9X. Franz DJ9ZB will join VK2RO and VK3DHT for a two to three week operation from Christmas Island which is just about to start.

COMOROS, D68. Frank DL7FT will operate from the Comoros this month. He will also try to get on the air from 5R8 if possible.

MALAGASY REPUBLIC, 5R8. DL7FT and the Colvins will attempt to activate this elusive spot before the end of the year.

MARSHALL ISLANDS, V73. After their V63 operation, the Canadian team plans to be ORV from V73 November 1 to 4. QSL via VE3JDO.

MOZAMBIQUE, C9. Lloyd and Iris Colvin are on the air from Mozambique. Look for C90L on the highest band with propagation stateside. QSL YASME.

NAURU, C21. Transportation problems have cancelled the VK2GJH C21 trip. Mats SM7PKK should be QRV from C21NI by the end of Nov.

QATAR, A7. Look for Ahmed A71CD around 28480 kHz, from 1200 to 1300 UTC.

SAUDI ARABIA, HZ. 7Z1AB is regularly on 21275 kHz at 2100 UTC, according to VP2ML. 7ZIAB QSL chores are handled by WB2WOW (or KN2N for COWW SSB.) HZ1AB, located within a military depot, is temporarily QRT.

SOUTH COOK ISLANDS, ZK1. Siggi, TF3CW, will sign ZKIVS in the CQWW CW contest. This is his way to unwind following the Banaba expedition November 7 to 21.

TUVALU. T2. Mats, SM7PKK, will be QRV from Tuvalu either before or after his C21NI operation in Nov. QSL to his home call.

VANUATU, YJ. OHIRY will sign YJOR in COWW CW this November.

WAKE ISLAND, KH9. There is still time to QSO AA4NP/AH9 on 20 or 40 meter CW. He has been very active from 1000 to 1100 UTC, but will QRT soon.

WEST KIRIBATI, T30. The Banaba crew may activate Tarawa first. If they do, it will be a limited operation from November 3 to 5.

SPRATLY ISLAND, 1S. Despite the support of INDEXA, Romeo, 3W3RR, is still lacking adequate funds for his return to Spratly in December. Contact NT2X for details.

Thanks to WIAW, Allen N2KW and the Tristate DX Packetcluster Network for the above info.

### NEW AND RENEWED **MEMBERS**



SINCE LAST MONTH

923 Norlee St. 823-9691

Connie Freitas N6FYV Cathy McClendon KC6MYG 2543 Tuscan Dr. Sebastopol, CA 95472 Santa Rosa, CA 95405 575-8780

BillHillendahl KH6GJV Sarah McClendon KC6NOE PO Box 4151 539-2791

2543 Tuscan Dr. Santa Rosa, CA 95402 Santa Rosa, CA 95405 575-8780

Pat Broderick KB6KSA Fred Leoni N6YEU 3357 Glen Echo Dr. Santa Rosa, CA 95404 528-2109

172 members total.

9627 Westside Rd. Healdsburg, CA 95448 431-8202

Rick Reiner K6ZWB Santa Rosa, CA 95401

### 150 Stony Point Rd.

### **AMATEUR EXAMS** IN NORTHERN CA



#### UNLICENSED-EXTRA: UNLICENSED-TECH ONLY: A. WALK-INS ONLY

1. WALK-INS ONLY 2. SOME WALK-INS

B. SOME WALK-INS 3. PRE-REG. PREFERRED C. PRE-REG. PREFERRED

4. PRE-REGISTER ONLY

D. PRE-REGISTER ONLY

OCT. 25 SAN CARLOS-7:30 PM A 408 255-9000 OCT. 27 STOCKTON--11:30 AM 1 916 662-0801 OCT. 27 OAKLAND-----9 AM 3 415 986-5055 OCT. 28 SUNNYVALE----11 AM 1 408 255-9000 NOV. 01 SAN CARLOS 7:30 PM A 408 255-9000 NOV. 03 TURLOCK----8:30 AM 1 209 358-9218 NOV. 08 SAN CARLOS 7:30 PM A 408 255-9000 NOV. 10 SUNNYVALE----11 AM 1 408 255-9000 NOV. 10 JACKSON-----9 AM 3 209 295-7947 NOV. 13 PLEASANT HILL 6 PM A 408 255-9000 NOV. 15 LOS ALTOS H.--7 PM A 408 255-9000 NOV. 15 SACRAMENTO-6:30 PM D 916 483-3293 NOV. 17 SAN CARLOS---11 AM 1 408 255-9000

NOV. 17 FAIRFIELD----11 AM I 408 255-9000 NOV. 17 SONORA-----9 AM 1 209 586-4917

NOV. 17 PORTERVILLE--10 AM 1 408 255-9000 NOV. 17 SACRAMENTO----9 AM 4 916 483-3293 NOV. 17 REDDING----? ?? ? 916 243-7382

NOV. 18 SUNNYVALE----11 AM 1 408 255-9000 NOV. 29 SAN CARLOS-7:30 PM A 408 255-9000 DEC. 01 CONCORD----1:30 PM 1 408 255-9000

DEC. 01 STOCKTON--11:30 AM 1 408 255-9000 DEC. 01 VISALIA----9 AM ? 209 734-9516 DEC. 01 NOVATO-????---9 AM 1 415 897-8950

DEC. 03 CHICO-----? ?? 3 916 342-1180 DEC. 06 SAN CARLOS-7:30 PM A 408 255-9000 DEC. 06 MODESTO----6:30 PM 1 209 883-2968

DEC. 08 SUNNYVALE----11 AM 1 408 255-9000 DEC. 08 FRESNO-----10 AM 1 408 255-9000 DEC. 08 NOVATO-----9 AM 1 415 897-8950

DEC. 08 SATNA MARIA---8 AM 1 805 922-0538 DEC. 08 OAKHURST---8:30 AM 1 209 683-8245

DEC. 13 SAN CARLOS-7:30 PM A 408 255-9000 DEC. 15 SAN CARLOS-???? AM 1 408 255-9000

DEC. 16 SUNNYVALE----11 AM 1 408 255-9000 DEC. 29 STOCKTON--11:30 AM 1 408 255-9000

JAN. 06 CLEARLAKE----11 AM 1 408 255-9000 JAN. 12 SUNNYVALE----11 AM 1 408 255-9000 JAN. 13 HANFORD----NOON -- 1 408 255-9000

JAN. 19 SAN CARLOS---11 AM 1 408 255-9000 JAN. 27 SUNNYVALE----11 AM 1 408 255-9000

FEB. 09 SUNNYVALE----11 AM 1 408 255-9000 FEB. 16 SAN CARLOS---11 AM 1 408 255-9000

FEB. 24 SUNNYVALE----11 AM 1 408 255-9000 SUNNYVALE VEC, BOX 60142, SUNNYVALE CA 94088 UPDATES & CORRECTIONS TO: SP W6NLG @ KA6JLT

## **— (4)**

### **EXAM SESSION RESULTS**

by STEVE LUND WASLLY

Seven hams upgraded at the exam session held on 11 October. KC6KTO, KB6PBD and Michael Lennon upgraded to Technician, while N6VUB. KB6LSB and N6YEU earned General licenses. In addition, Paul Dana passed his Novice test. A special thanks to Larry AA6RD and Hank W6DTV for helping me run the session.

I would also like to thank SCRA for picking up the out-of-pocket expenses for the exam sessions. The \$4.95 fee that is collected is all forwarded to ARRL-VEC.

Starting on Ol November 1990, the question pools for 3B, 4A and 4B are changing. Make sure that you are studying the correct material before you take the General Class and higher exams in the future.

#### DO YOU KNOW WHERE YOUR LICENSE IS?

Do you? Now is a good time to check around the shack for it. When you find it, you should be sure that you have signed it. About a quarter of those taking exams can't find their license! You can get a duplicate by writing to the FCC at PO Box 1020, Gettysburg, PA 17326. You do not need a Form 610 to request a duplicate license.

If your license is lightly printed (or worse), don't try to fix it. Get a duplicate from the FCC. The VEs have been warned not to accept any such modified license.

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#### ARDCO ELECTRONICS SUPPLY

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### POHNPEI -- PRECIPITATION PARROTS AND PROPAGATION

by Nancy Vander Velde AA6EA

It rains on Pohnpei. In fact, it rains a LOT on Pohnpei. With over 400 inches of rain falling every year on its 2,000-foot mountains, it is the rainiest area in all Micronesia.

Of course, all of this precipitation does not just sit on the tops of the high hills -- it runs down toward the sea. En route, it creates small streams and larger rivers, some with classically-beautiful cascading waterfalls. Thus, many homes scattered about the more urban regions of the 334 square-mile island have their own private stream rushing by, shared only by fresh water shrimp and eels.

The people living in the capital of Kolonia also benefit from the river-fed torrents. Recently, a hydroelectric plant was built, although it still must be supplemented by more conventional diesel generators.

A tropical island with an abundance of water is a good place for things to grow. The many rolling hills and towering peaks are

carpeted with greenery. The only places not so endowed are the sheer cliffs of volcanic basalt, such as Pohnpei's famous landmark, Sokehs Rock. It does not seem at all out of place in such surroundings to see and hear wild parrots (called "Pohnpei Lories"), except when you hear that they are unique to Pohnpei. There are no other Micronesian parrots, and ornithologists are not sure where they come from or why.

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Pohnpei is also home to a profusion of ethnic and language groups, each living in its own micro-community. Ngatikese, Mokilese, Kosraeans, Mortlockese, and Kapingimarangians all came to the big landmass of Pohnpei at various times and for various reasons, such as when a severe typhoon hit their home island.

Another ethnic and language group is the Americans and other English-speaking peoples. Their arrival has been more gradual -- some came as teachers, some with the Peace Corps, some as yachters passing through. For the most part, they are less permanent than the people from other areas of Micronesia, but like the others, they have brought their ways and customs. One of these "strange customs" is ham radio!

Pohnpei is one of the best-represented spots for "hamming" in all of Micronesia. It is also the capital of the Federated States of Micronesia, where reciprocal licenses are processed. And just as the falling rain naturally meanders downstream, when Amateur Radio and good propagation coexist, antennas naturally rise and signals radiate upwards.

Many of Pohnpei's V63 callsigns, however, are like the migratory shorebirds that just pass through for a time, making lots of noise before they return where they came from. Slowly this is changing, and eventually, a few radio operators from other countries will put down enough roots of their own to establish themselves permanently on this island. Native Pohnpeian and other islanders will also become addicted to Amateur Radio communications. Then ham radio will seemingly be as indigenous as that perplexing, squawky Pohnpei parrot.

Kaselehlia oh isiakan-esil (greetings/beauty and seventy-three).

### **BUILD THE "WOOP"**

Here's an easy 3-band antenna described by Josef Glaeser DK2VA in the July issue of CO-DL. The drawing says it all. On 10 meters, it is a standard fullwave loop. On 80 and 15 meters. you feed the coax as an end-fed longwire (1/4 wave on 80 and 7/4 wave on 15.) Be sure to include counterpoise wires (one 65 ft long, one 11 ft long) connected to the transmitter chassis. If you only need 10 meters, delete the counterpoise wires, and the coax can be any length.

For the loop, the author recommends "Bronzelitze", which I think means braided bronze wire. He claims that copper wire stretches too much. I believe hard-drawn stranded copper wire would work fine. If you're worried about it, use copperweld (copper-coated steel).

The balun specified is a 1:2 type. An alternative would be to use a 1:1 balun and make the feedline out of 75 ohm coax, an odd multiple of a quarter wave long. For standard RG-59 (non-foam) with a .66 velocity factor, this means an odd multiple of 1.749 meters (5 ft, 8-7/8 in). Cut it a bit long and trim for best SWR.

Oh, I almost forgot. "Woop" stands for "Wochenend-Loop" -- the loop you can build in a few hours over the weekend.

Jim Pelmulder **N6PTM** 

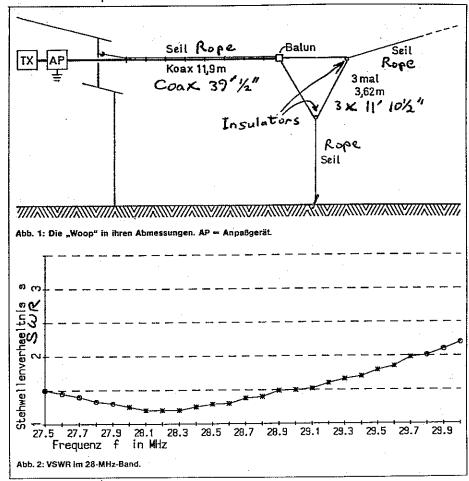
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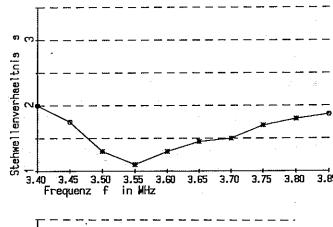
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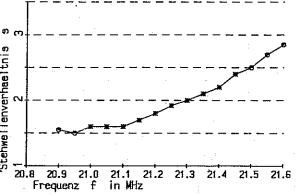
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